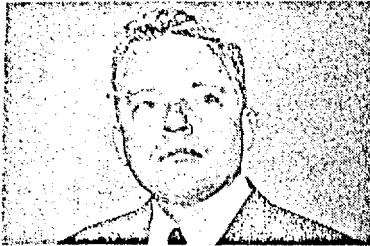


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Newsweek—Jeff Lowenthal

Klein: Speculation



Associated Press

Boyd: Corroboration

CONGRESS:

The Dodd Case

Four paces from the stand sat silver-haired Sen. Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut, glaring with unmasked outrage at the Senate Ethics Committee's first witnesses—the quartet of his former employees who had surreptitiously plundered his correspondence files and turned his private life into grist for a public investigation. Now, for the first time since the 1954 McCarthy censure proceedings, the U.S. Senate was prepared to take a public look at the seamier side of one of its own. And for days in Washington last week, spectators jammed a huge paneled hearing room to watch the 59-year-old Connecticut Democrat confront his accusers—and face his colleagues.

It was a confrontation that promised fireworks and produced them. Dodd had sat in somber silence while his onetime administrative assistant James Patrick Boyd Jr., 37, a soft-spoken curly-haired Phi Beta Kappa, led off by admitting he had helped steal some 4,000 of the senator's private documents. With these papers as evidence, Boyd emphatically testified to the central conflict-of-interest charge that the Ethics Committee is exploring in the opening phase of its hearings. The charge: Dodd made a six-day trip through West Germany in 1964 primarily to promote the interests and repair the image of a high-pressure Chicago-based lobbyist named Julius Klein, one of whose contracts (worth some \$150,000 a year) as agent for West German government-subsidized interests had been jeopardized as a result of a 1963 Senate investigation of foreign agents.

But Dodd could not contain himself at the testimony of the next witness, Miss Marjorie A. Carpenter, 28, a green-eyed blond divorcee who had served as a secretary for Dodd for four years. In a singsong Arkansas



Associated Press

Confrontation: When blond Marjorie Carpenter testified, Dodd (right) exploded

drawl, she told of overhearing two other Senate staffers discussing Dodd's 1964 trip. "I wonder how much General Klein paid Senator Dodd to do that? ... He must have paid \$10,000," said staff assistant David Martin, as quoted by Miss Carpenter. To which, she said, the senator's aide Gerard Zeiller replied, "Oh, easily." Under quizzing by committee chairman John Stennis, Miss Carpenter admitted she regarded this dialogue as mere "speculation" or a "cynical joke."

Dodd took it seriously, however. He sprang to his feet, his face red with anger, and demanded that Zeiller and Martin be called to the stand immediately to tell their versions of the conversation. Then when the committee fell into a dispute over whether to strike Miss Carpenter's testimony—which Zeiller and Martin later flatly refuted—Dodd approached the committee dais, waving his arms and protesting hoarsely: "I thought this was a fact-finding hearing and not a trial," he said.

The Club: It was, in a broad sense, something of both—a hearing of the facts in the Dodd case, and a trial of the Senate's capacity to expose them even at the risk of damaging or ruining a long-time member of The Club.

The Dodd case is the committee's first—and it is already abundantly clear that the group is going to chart its course as it moves tentatively ahead. The open hearings had followed two days of intense sparring in executive session over ground rules; even after the sessions opened up, peripheral disputes kept obscuring their direction. One of Dodd's four attorneys tried—until Chairman John Stennis cut him off—to interrogate Miss Carpenter about her admittedly "very important" relationship with recently divorced James Boyd. And Dodd himself triggered another irrelevant spat by jumping up to protest that the voice of one witness was being drowned out by the sound of noisy hammering that came from workmen hammering in the new Senate Office Building. "I hope this is not prearranged," he said—int-

imating, as he had earlier, that the hearing was stacked against him.

In spite of interruptions and diversionary fireworks, the committee heard an abundance of evidence that Dodd—ostensibly on a fact-finding mission for the Senate Internal Security subcommittee—had indeed acted diligently, if not primarily, in Julius Klein's behalf in Germany. Boyd testified that he had objected to his boss's leaving Washington at that time because Dodd was a floor leader during the 1964 civil-rights filibuster. But, he said, Dodd replied: "I have to go. Julius has been pressing me and pressing me to go." The committee also admitted as exhibits a set of "briefing papers" prepared by Klein for Dodd, and containing highly specific instructions on what the senator was to tell various high West German Government officials. Finally there was a cable from Vienna in which Klein again jogged Dodd to come to Bonn, to which Dodd replied: "I don't think it is at all necessary for you to accompany me and there is a chance that it might be misunderstood. You know how anxious I am to help you and it is for this reason that I want to present your case in the best possible light."

Detailed Study: Last week's hearings touched only briefly on benefits that Dodd has received from Klein. There was \$1,000 in contributions for Dodd's 1956 House and 1958 Senate campaigns, then another \$1,000 for a table at one of Dodd's testimonial dinners. And, as well, there was Dodd's frequent free use—40 or 50 times from 1961 to 1965, said Boyd—of Klein's luxurious suite at the Essex House on Manhattan's expensive Central Park South. Committee sources indicated that only later will the senators begin a detailed study of Dodd's fiscal operations—particularly the allegation that he turned between \$200,000 and \$300,000 in campaign contributions to personal use (NEWSWEEK, May 9).

As the hearings recessed for the day, Dodd's son Jeremy, 27, accosted one of the aides in the Senate cafeteria and threat-

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ened him: "When this thing is over, I'm going to pursue you to your grave." That outburst promptly brought a committee warning against intimidating witnesses and a mimeographed apology from Dodd for Jeremy's "losing his temper."

As a sworn witness, Dodd himself was still to be heard from. But some committee members were already prepared to make a damning judgment about the immediate point of inquiry—Dodd's 1964 mission to Germany. "This looks to me like a one-man trip . . . without consultation with any other members of the committee," said Utah's Republican Sen. Wallace F. Bennett. "I see no indication that this was anything but a personal trip by Senator Dodd."

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